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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/530,058	01/18/2006	Dipl-Ing Peter Listl	40770-000165/US	6266

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EXAMINER	
NASRI, JAVAID H	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2839	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
09/28/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/530,058	LISTL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Javaid Nasri	2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *18 January 2006* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *See Continuation Sheet*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :5/14/07, 8/22/05, 7/20/05, 4/4/05.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because:

a) The lines in general are not uniformly thick.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

a) The following headings are missing from the specification:

i) Field of the invention

ii) Background of the invention

iii) Summary of the invention

iv) Brief description of the drawings

v) Detail description of the invention

b) Remove references to claim 1 from page 1

c) Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

In the instant case the form and legal phraseology "said" is used.

Note: These are few examples only. Applicant is required to check the entire disclosure and correct the disclosure accordingly.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities:

a) In claim 3, line 2, "the end of one of the bus bar tubes" lack antecedent base.

b) In claim 3, line 3, "or the ends of the two bus bar tubes" lack antecedent base.

c) In claim 3, line 4, "the area" lack antecedent base.

d) In claim 4, line 4, "the inside walls" lack antecedent base.

e) In claim 4, line 8, "the interior of the bellows" lack antecedent base.

f) In claim 5, line 3, "a bus bar tube" is already in claim 1.

g) In claim 5, line 3, "the end" lack antecedent base.

h) In claim 8, line 1, "the end of one of the bus bar tubes" lack antecedent base.

i) In claim 8, line 2, "or the ends of the two bus bar tubes" lack antecedent base.

j) In claim 8, line 2, "the area" lack antecedent base.

k) In claim 9, line 3, "the inside walls" lack antecedent base.

l) In claim 10, line 2, "a bus bar tube" is already in claim 2.

m) In claim 10, line 2, "the end" lack antecedent base.

n) In claim 12, line 4, "the outside walls" lack antecedent base.

Note: These are few examples only. Applicant is required to check all the claims and correct them accordingly.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 11122730 (cited in IDS).

JP 11122730 discloses, **for claim 1**, bus bar connection for a gas-insulated switchboard system with at least two switchboard sections that are both filled with insulating gas and from each of which a bus bar tube extends so as to be gastight, the bus bar tubes being connectable to one another through at least one electrical coupling element and with bellows that can be installed between the switchboard sections and enclose the electrical connection element so that it is gastight, characterized in that wherein one of the two bus bar tubes or both bus bar tubes can be filled with insulating gas, **for claim 2**, gas-insulated switchboard system, in particular a gas-insulated medium-voltage switchboard system, with at least two switchboard sections that are both filled with

insulating gas and from which at least one bus bar tube extends so as to be gastight, the bus bar tubes being connected to one another through at least one electrical coupling element, with bellows that can be installed between the switchboard sections and enclose the electrical connection element so that it is gastight, characterized in that wherein the bellows and one of the two bus bar tubes or both the bus bar tubes are filled with insulating gas, **for claim 3**, the end of one of the bus bar tubes or the ends of the two bus bar tubes extend into the area that is enclosed by the bellows so that the insulating gas can flow into the bellows through one of the bus bar tubes or through the two bus bar tubes so as to fill the bellows with gas, **for claim 4**, the electrical connection element is a clamp that incorporates tension springs or tension washers, which is pressed against the inside walls of the bus bar tubes; and in that the clamp forms an electrically conductive connection, which is not a mechanical seal, between the bus bar tubes so that the insulating gas can flow from one bust bar tube into the other bus bar tube well as into the interior of the bellows, **for claim 5**, the electrical connection element is arranged at the end of a bus bar tube so as to be axially displaceable, **for claim 6**, the electrical connection element forms an electrically conductive clamped connection between the switchboard sections, **for claim 7**, the bellows are of metal; and in that the bellows incorporates sealing elements and attachment elements that can be installed from outside the bellows, these forming a positive, force-derived seal with the outside walls of the switchboard sections, **for claim 8**, the end of one of the bus bar tubes or the ends of the two bus bar tubes extend into the area that is enclosed by the bellows so that the insulating gas can flow into the

bellows through one of the bus bar tubes or through the two bus bar tubes so as to fill the bellows with gas, **for claim 9**, the electrical connection element is a clamp that incorporates tension springs or tension washers, which is pressed against the inside walls of the bus bar tubes; and in that the clamp forms an electrically conductive connection, which is not a mechanical seal, between the bus bar tubes so that the insulating gas can flow from one bust bar tube into the other bus bar tube as well as into the interior of the bellows, **for claim 10**, the electrical connection element is arranged at the end of a bus bar tube so as to be axially displaceable, **for claim 11**, the electrical connection element forms an electrically conductive clamped connection between the switchboard sections, **for claim 12**, the bellows are of metal; and in that the bellows incorporates sealing elements and attachment elements that can be installed from outside the bellows, these forming a positive, force- derived seal with the outside walls of the switchboard sections.

6. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 04190609 (cited in IDS).

JP 04190609 discloses, **for claim 1**, bus bar connection for a gas-insulated switchboard system with at least two switchboard sections that are both filled with insulating gas and from each of which a bus bar tube extends so as to be gastight, the bus bar tubes being connectable to one another through at least one electrical coupling element and with bellows that can be installed between the switchboard sections and enclose the electrical connection element so that it is gastight, characterized in that wherein one of the two bus bar tubes or both bus bar tubes can be filled with insulating gas, **for claim**

2, gas-insulated switchboard system, in particular a gas-insulated medium-voltage switchboard system, with at least two switchboard sections that are both filled with insulating gas and from which at least one bus bar tube extends so as to be gastight, the bus bar tubes being connected to one another through at least one electrical coupling element, with bellows that can be installed between the switchboard sections and enclose the electrical connection element so that it is gastight, characterized in that wherein the bellows and one of the two bus bar tubes or both the bus bar tubes are filled with insulating gas, **for claim 3**, the end of one of the bus bar tubes or the ends of the two bus bar tubes extend into the area that is enclosed by the bellows so that the insulating gas can flow into the bellows through one of the bus bar tubes or through the two bus bar tubes so as to fill the bellows with gas, **for claim 4**, the electrical connection element is a clamp that incorporates tension springs or tension washers, which is pressed against the inside walls of the bus bar tubes; and in that the clamp forms an electrically conductive connection, which is not a mechanical seal, between the bus bar tubes so that the insulating gas can flow from one bust bar tube into the other bus bar tube well as into the interior of the bellows, **for claim 5**, the electrical connection element is arranged at the end of a bus bar tube so as to be axially displaceable, **for claim 6**, the electrical connection element forms an electrically conductive clamped connection between the switchboard sections, **for claim 7**, the bellows are of metal; and in that the bellows incorporates sealing elements and attachment elements that can be installed from outside the bellows, these forming a positive, force-derived seal with the outside walls of the switchboard sections, **for claim**

8, the end of one of the bus bar tubes or the ends of the two bus bar tubes extend into the area that is enclosed by the bellows so that the insulating gas can flow into the bellows through one of the bus bar tubes or through the two bus bar tubes so as to fill the bellows with gas, **for claim 9**, the electrical connection element is a clamp that incorporates tension springs or tension washers, which is pressed against the inside walls of the bus bar tubes; and in that the clamp forms an electrically conductive connection, which is not a mechanical seal, between the bus bar tubes so that the insulating gas can flow from one bust bar tube into the other bus bar tube as well as into the interior of the bellows, **for claim 10**, the electrical connection element is arranged at the end of a bus bar tube so as to be axially displaceable, **for claim 11**, the electrical connection element forms an electrically conductive clamped connection between the switchboard sections, **for claim 12**, the bellows are of metal; and in that the bellows incorporates sealing elements and attachment elements that can be installed from outside the bellows, these forming a positive, force- derived seal with the outside walls of the switchboard sections.

Contact

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 571 272 2095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas C. Patel can be reached on 571 272 2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Javaid Nasri/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2839

Jhn
September 22, 2009